

Attorney's Docket No.: 10559-274001

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above referenced application are respectfully requested. Claim amendments and new claims are provided to obviate the current rejections. No new matter has been added.

Drawings

The drawings have been objected to as not disclosing features in previous claims 9, 14, and 25. Claims 9 and 14 have been canceled thereby obviating the rejection to those claims. With regard to claim 25, the feature "instruction size determination unit" has been replaced with the term "pre-decoding unit". Sample pre-decoding units, such as IF2 403 are illustrated in FIG. 4 (see, for example, page 13, lines 3-5). Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that every feature specified in the claims is shown in the drawings. Accordingly, the drawing objection relating to the subject matter recited in claim 25 should be withdrawn.

35 USC § 112

Claims 2, 4-15, 17, 18, and 23-26 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, and second paragraph for inclusion of the phrase "a different location in an instruction pipeline." In an effort to expedite the allowance of the current

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application, this phrase has been deleted from the above-referenced claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this basis for rejection be withdrawn.

Moreover, the allowability of claims 25 and 26 is gratefully acknowledged. As the above phrase has been deleted from these claims, it is respectfully submitted that such claims are now in condition for allowance.

35 USC § 102

Claims 9, 13-15, 17, and 18 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Favor. Claims 2, 4-9, 10-12, 23, and 24 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Fleck. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In an effort to expedite the allowance of the current application, claims 9, 13-15, 17, and 18 have been deleted. Moreover, claim 23 has been amended to recite receiving instructions from a plurality of instruction sources, into a first switching part, receiving size information associated with the received instructions into a second switching part, and using the first and second switching parts to switch among the instruction sources, said using simultaneously providing an instruction and associated size information at an output thereof. New claim 34 recites similar subject matter.

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Fleck fails to disclose an arrangement that utilizes two switching parts as recited in claim 23. The output of the type evaluation unit 7 of Fleck is output to MUX 4, thereby an instruction and size information cannot be simultaneously output. This position is consistent with the reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter in the previous office action.

Accordingly, claim 23 and the claims dependent thereon, as well as claim 24, should be allowable.

New claim 27 recites producing instruction sizes respectively associated with a plurality of instructions originating from a plurality of instruction sources, switching instructions from said instruction sources using a first switching element, switching instruction sizes using a second switching element, and simultaneously outputting both of said instructions and said instruction sizes to a decoder. As these features are of similar scope to allowable claim 25, claim 27 and its dependent claims should be similarly allowable.

Concluding Comments

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition,

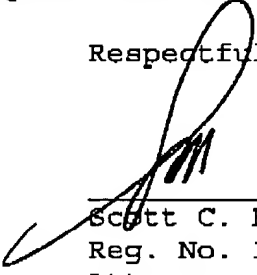
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because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/17/05



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